

Two Units of Arsenal Put Up for Lease

All or portions of seven large government-owned industrial installations, including the Elwood and Kankakee units of the Joliet arsenal, are available for lease to commercial interests, it was announced today.

In listing the installations available for lease, the Chicago District, U.S., Army Corps of Engineers, said details of the manufacturing facilities available may be obtained by anyone interested. The Chicago District office is at 475 Merchandise Mart, Chicago 54.

The Kankakee and Elwood units of the arsenal played an important role in supplying shells, bombs and TNT to the Allied armed forces in World War II, and to the American forces in Korea during the Korean war. In the past year, changes of ordnance requirements have resulted in virtual shutdown of the Elwood unit, which was operated by the government, and the Kankakee unit, which was operated under contract by the U.S. Rubber Co.

At peak operation periods, during World War II, the two units employed some 20,000 persons.